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SEC R/E T SPOKE-ISHTAR
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LARGE NUMBERS OF PERSONNEL RETURNING TO NORTH VIETNAM FROM SOUTH VIETNAM HAVE BEEN NOTED TRANSITTING THE QUAN HAU (1724N 18639E XE7525) AREA DURING THE PAST FEW MONTHS. DURING THE PERIOD 5 AUGUST TO 12 OCTOBER, GROUP 174 AUTHORITIES AT THE QUAN HAU FERRY PROCESSED AT LEAST 13,482 NORTHWARD MOVING PERSONNEL. OF THESE, AT LEAST 4,396 WERE SICK AND WOUNDED, 7,166 WERE TRANSIENT AND 1,928 WERE OF UNDETERMINED TYPE. OF SPECIAL NOTE AMONG THESE 13,482 PERSONNEL WERE 13 TO NORTH VIETNAM ON 21 AUGUST. (A). THESE 13,492 PERSONNEL REPRESENT THE HEAVIEST FLOW OF NORTHWARD MOVING PERSONNEL SINCE JANUARY-MAY 1974 WHEN AN AVERAGE OF MORE THAN 8,888 NORTHWARD MOVING PERSONNEL WERE NOTED PER MONTH. GROUP 174 EXPERIENCED CONSIDERABLE DIFFICULTIES HANDLING THESE PERSONNEL DURING THE APPROXIMATE NINE WEEKS OF THIS INFLUX. THE MOST SEVERE PROBLEMS OCCURRED AT QUAN HAU DURING THE LAST TWO WEEKS OF SEPTEMBER WHEN ALL DISPATCHES AT THAT LOCATION VIRTUALLY CEASED, SO THAT, BY THE END OF SEPTEMBER, NEARLY 8,888 PERSONNEL WERE CROWDED INTO THE QUAN HAU AREA AWAITING NORTHWARD TRANSPORTATION. A SIMILAR PILEUP OF PEOPLE OCCURRED AT DA NANG IN THE 9A8 3/OO/25714-X5 25 AUG 75. (B) 2/OO/14641-75 (VC), 151414Z OCT 75. XGDS 2 XXHH 48217

(b) (1) (b) (3) -50 USC 403 (b) (3) -18 USC 798 (b) (3) -P.L. 86-36

Approved for release by NSA on 07-21-2014, Transparency Case# 65886

SECRET SPOKE

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